UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ELN	UR	MY	RZA	BEK	OV.
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Plaintiff, Case No.:

-against-

COMPLAINT

ARTISANS OF MEDICINE-NYC P.C. d/b/a RJ MEDICAL & URGENT CARE, R. JOUDEH MEDICAL PAVILION PLLC, RAMSEY JOUDEH, AND DOES 1-10.

Defendants.

Plaintiff, ELNUR MYRZABEKOV, by and through his undersigned attorneys hereby alleges as and for his Complaint against Defendants as follows:

PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff ELNUR MYRZABEKOV is an individual residing in Brooklyn, New York, and at all relevant times was covered employee within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") and the New York Labor Law ("NYLL").
- 2. Upon information and belief, Defendant ARTISANS OF MEDICINE-NYC P.C., d/b/a RJ MEDICAL & URGENT CARE (hereinafter "RJ Medical") was and is a domestic professional corporation whose principal place of business is located at 466 Bay Ridge Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11220.
- 3. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times RJ Medical's annual gross receipts were not less than \$500,000.00 and/or it engaged in interstate commerce.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant R. JOUDEH MEDICAL PAVILION PLLC (hereinafter "R. Joudeh Medical") was and is a domestic professional service limited

liability company whose principal place of business is located at 466 Bay Ridge Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11220.

- 5. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times R. Joudeh Medical's annual gross receipts were not less than \$500,000.00 and/or it engaged in interstate commerce.
- 6. Upon information and belief, Defendant RAMSEY JOUDEH (hereinafter "Dr. Joudeh") is an individual whose actual place of business is located at 466 Bay Ridge Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11220.
- 7. Upon information and belief, Does 1 through 10 are owners, principals, officers and/or managers of Defendant RJ Medical.
- 8. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Defendant Dr. Joudeh is the sole member of and served as a principal, officer and/or manager of Defendant RJ Medical and Defendant R. Joudeh Medical.
- 9. At all relevant times, Defendants were covered employers within the meaning of the FLSA and the NYLL and at all relevant times employed and/or jointly employed Plaintiff.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 10. Jurisdiction is based upon 28 U.S.C. § 1331, insofar as it involves a statute of the United States, specifically, the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 *et seq.*, and Plaintiff relies upon 28 U.S.C. § 1367 to invoke supplemental jurisdiction with respect to the state law claims which form another basis for recovery upon the same factual nexus, specifically Articles 6 & 19 of the New York Labor Law and 12 NYCRR § 142-2.2 and 12 NYCRR § 142-2.4.
- 11. Venue is based upon 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1), insofar as at least one of the Defendants resides within this Judicial District, and/or (b)(2), insofar as a substantial part of the

events giving rise to the within causes of action occurred in this Judicial District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 12. Defendants owned and/or operated at all relevant times an urgent care medical facility located in Brooklyn, New York.
- 13. Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, part-time, from on or about December 22, 2020 through January 15, 2021, to work as a front desk receptionist at their facility and to distribute flyers.
 - 14. Defendants promised to pay Plaintiff \$16 per hour for his work.
 - 15. During that time, Plaintiff worked at least 69 hours for Defendants
- 16. However, Defendants did not pay Plaintiff anything for his work during the entire time Defendants employed him.
- 17. In or about late July 2021, more than five months after Plaintiff stopped working for Defendants, Defendants sent Plaintiff a check for \$763.82.
 - 18. Plaintiff did not receive the statutorily required minimum wage.
- 19. Defendants have not kept accurate records of wages earned, or of hours worked, by Plaintiff.
- 20. Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiff with annual wage notices, as required by the NYLL.
- 21. Defendants failed to furnish Plaintiff with a proper statement with every payment of wages, as required by the NYLL.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION Fair Labor Standards Act - Minimum Wage

22. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.

- Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, each Defendant has been, and continues to be, an employer engaged in interstate commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, et seq.
- 24. At all relevant times, Plaintiff was an employee within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, et seq.
- 25. At all relevant times, Defendants have been employers of Plaintiff and engaged employees in commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, et seq.
- 26. Defendants knowingly and willfully violated 29 U.S.C. § 206 by failing to pay Plaintiff the applicable minimum wage as required by the FLSA.
- 27. As a result of Defendants' violations of the FLSA, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, as well as liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, attorneys' fees, costs, and other compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION New York Labor Law – Minimum Wage

- 28. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 29. At all relevant times, Defendants have been employers of Plaintiff within the meaning of the NYLL.
- 30. Defendants knowingly and willfully violated NYLL, Article 19, §§ 650 *et seq.*, and supporting regulations, by failing to pay Plaintiff the applicable minimum wage as required by the NYLL.
- 31. As a result of Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, as well as liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, attorneys' fees, costs, and other compensation pursuant to the NYLL.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION New York Labor Law – Wage Notice Claim

- 32. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 33. Defendants knowingly and willfully failed to furnish to Plaintiff in writing, at the time of hiring, a notice containing with every payment of wages a wage statement including: the rate or rates of pay, including overtime rate of pay, the official name of the employer and any other names used for business (DBA), phone number of employer; correct minimum wage; and the proper overtime rate, and the address and phone number of the employer's main office or principal location, as required by NYLL, Article 6, § 195(1).
- 34. As a result of Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to statutory penalties of fifty dollars for each workday that Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff with a proper wage statement, or five thousand dollars, as well as attorneys' fees, costs, injunctive and declaratory relief, as provided for by NYLL, Article 6, § 198(1-b).

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION New York Labor Law – Wage Statement Claim

- 35. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 36. Defendants knowingly and willfully failed to furnish to Plaintiffs and the Class with every payment of wages a wage statement including: furnish each employee with a statement with every payment of wages, listing the following: the dates of work covered by that payment of wages; name of employee; name of employer; address and phone number of employer; rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour,

shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; gross wages; deductions; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage; net wages; as well as the regular hourly rate or rates of pay; the overtime rate or rates of pay; the number of regular hours worked, and the number of overtime hours worked, as required by NYLL, Article 6, § 195(3).

37. As a result of Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to statutory penalties of two hundred and fifty dollars for each workday that Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff with a proper wage statement, or five thousand dollars, as well as attorneys' fees, costs, injunctive and declaratory relief, as provided for by NYLL, Article 6, § 198(1-d).

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION New York Labor Law - Failure to Pay Wages Timely

- 38. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 39. Plaintiff worked for Defendants from on or about December 22, 2020 through January 15, 2021.
- 40. Defendants, however, did not make any payment of wages to Plaintiff until in or about late July 2021, more than six months after Plaintiff stopped working for Defendants, and even then Defendants did not make payment of the wages owed to Plaintiff.
- 41. Defendants knowingly and willfully failed to make timely payment of wages to Plaintiff, as required by NYLL, Article 6, § 191.
- 42. As a result of Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, as well as liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, attorneys' fees, costs, and other compensation pursuant to the NYLL.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION Broadh of Contract

- 43. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 44. Plaintiff worked for Defendants from on or about December 22, 2020 through January 15, 2021.
- 45. Defendants promised Plaintiff that they would compensate him at a regular rate of pay of \$16/hour.
- 46. Implicit in Defendants' promise of wage compensation was that Defendants would pay Plaintiff one and a half times his regular rate of pay for any hours worked in excess of 40 hours per workweek, as required by the FLSA and the NYLL.
- 47. Plaintiff worked for Defendants at least 69 hours, in reasonable reliance on Defendants' promises.
 - 48. Defendants failed to make payment to Plaintiff of the agreed-upon wages.
- 49. Defendants therefore are liable to Plaintiff for breach of contract or quasi-contract, in an amount to be determined at trial.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION Unjust Enrichment/Quantum Meruit

- 50. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.
- 51. Plaintiff, to his detriment, performed services for Defendants at Defendants' request with the reasonable expectation of receiving compensation from Defendants.
 - 52. Defendants accepted and benefitted from Plaintiff's performance of such services.
 - 53. It would be unjust and unconscionable to allow Defendants to retain the benefit of

Plaintiff's services without paying Plaintiff due compensation for the reasonable value of his services.

54. Defendants are therefore liable to Plaintiff in an amount to be proven at trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that a judgment be entered against Defendants, and each of them, as follows:

- (a) awarding Plaintiff back pay for minimum wages due and owing;
- (b) awarding Plaintiff liquidated damages as provided under the FLSA and NYLL;
- (c) as a result of Defendants' willful violations of NYLL § 195(1) for failure to provide wages notices, awarding Plaintiff damages pursuant to NYLL § 198(1-b) of fifty dollars for each workday that the violations occurred or continue to occur, up to a total of five thousand dollars;
- (d) as a result of Defendants' willful violations of NYLL § 195(3) for failure to provide wages statements, awarding Plaintiff damages pursuant to NYLL § 198(1-d) of \$250.00 for each workday Defendants failed that the violations occurred or continue to occur, up to a total of five thousand dollars;
 - (e) awarding Plaintiff all other compensation due and owing;
- (f) awarding Plaintiff his reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and/or New York State's Labor Law, Articles 6 & 19, §§ 198(1-a), 663(1);
 - (g) awarding Plaintiff prejudgment interest, as well as his costs and disbursements;
 - (h) awarding such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: September 20, 2021

HUR, LASH & CHOE, LLP

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